

## EXETER TOWN WARRANT – 2017

To the inhabitants of the Town of Exeter, in the County of Rockingham, in the said State, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

### **First Session**

You are hereby notified that the first session (the Deliberative Session) of the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Arthur L. Hanson III Center for the Performing Arts at Exeter High School, 1 Blue Hawk Drive. The first session will consist of explanation, discussion and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will also afford voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to warrant articles, except those articles in which wording is prescribed by state law.

### **Second Session**

The second session of the annual town meeting, to elect town officers by official ballot and to vote on all warrant articles as they may have been amended at the first session, will be held on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Talbot Gymnasium at the Tuck Learning Center, 30 Linden Street. Polls for voting by official ballot will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

### **Article 1**

To choose the following: 1 Moderator for a 2 year term; 2 Selectman for a 3-year term; 1 Town Clerk for a 3-year term; 1 Treasurer for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of Swasey Parkway for a 3-year term; 1 Trustee of the Robinson Fund for a 7-year term; 1 Trustee of The Robinson Fund for a 2-year term; 1 Trustee of Trust Funds for a 3-year term; 3 Library Trustees for a 3-year term.

**Article 2 Zoning Amendment #1:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: to allow accessory dwelling units as a Special Exception in the R-4 Multi-Family Residential Zoning District and to allow accessory dwelling units to be a minimum of seven hundred and fifty (750) square feet as required by the new state law that will become effective June 1, 2017 and to allow accessory dwelling units in all districts where they are currently allowed to be up to a maximum of nine hundred (900) square feet or 1/3 of the finished floor area, whichever is less?

**Article 3 Zoning Amendment #2:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: to require that all newly created building lots have frontage (a) on a public road or (b) shown on a subdivision plan approved by the Planning Board and constructed to Town specifications and for which surety has been posted to guarantee construction of all improvements required by the Planning Board? The minimum frontage required for all newly created building lots shall be the same as the minimum lot width required in the zoning ordinance.

**Article 4 Zoning Amendment #3:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town zoning ordinance, as follows: Deleting Section 6.8.3 of the zoning ordinance that requires an eighty-five (85) foot building setback and a seventy-five (75) foot parking setback in the commercial area of Epping Road between Industrial Drive and NH Route 101 and allowing the existing setback of fifty (50) feet set forth in Table 4.4 Schedule III of the zoning ordinance to control?

## **Article 5**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two million eight hundred two thousand dollars (\$2,802,000) for the design and construction of road, sidewalk, streetscape, drainage, stormwater management, water and sewer improvements on Lincoln Street, Tremont Street, Winter Street, and Daniel Street, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$2,802,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service will be paid from the general fund (\$1,702,000), the sewer fund (\$932,000) and the water fund (\$168,000).

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

## **Article 6**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) for the design and construction of drinking water system improvements to decrease the formation of trihalomethanes (THM's) and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,500,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service will be paid from the water fund.

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

## **Article 7**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million three hundred eighty one thousand dollars (\$1,381,000) for the replacement of culverts and associated bridge reconstruction work on Court Street at Little River and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,381,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Debt service will be paid from the general fund (\$1,336,000) and the water fund (\$45,000)

(3/5 ballot vote required for approval.)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

## **Article 8**

To choose all other necessary Town Officers, Auditors or Committees for the ensuing year.

## **Article 9**

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$18,137,426. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$17,908,273 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2.

## **Article 10**

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a water operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$3,308,733. Should this article be defeated, the water default budget shall be \$3,254,972 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

## **Article 11**

Shall the Town of Exeter raise and appropriate as a sewer operating budget, not including appropriation by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,383,661. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,350,970 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Exeter or by law.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

## **Article 12**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the SEIU (Service Employees International Union) Local 1984 for FY17 and FY18 which calls for the following salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary/Benefits Increase		
	General Fund	Water Fund	Sewer Fund
FY17	\$13,730	\$10,502	\$10,024

FY18	\$36,093	\$12,516	\$9,781
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And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-four thousand two hundred fifty six dollars (\$34,256) for the 2017 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

### **Article 13**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the Exeter New England Police Benevolent Association for FY17 which calls for the following salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Salary/Benefits Increase
FY17	\$7,879

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of seven thousand eight hundred seventy-nine dollars (\$7,879) for the 2017 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

### **Article 14**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred forty one thousand two hundred sixty one dollars (\$541,261) for the purpose of constructing sidewalks on a portion of Epping Road, a portion of Spring Street, and Winter Street, with \$108,252 coming from general taxation as a grant match; with the remaining \$433,009 to be funded through a NHDOT grant; furthermore, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any state, federal and other grants and gifts related to the project. This article will not become effective unless the NHDOT grant is awarded to the Town. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the project is completed or December 31, 2020, whichever is later.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

### **Article 15**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 19 of the 2015 Town Meeting to extend the expiration date of the appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2020, or until the project is complete, whichever is sooner.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 16**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 19 of the 2015 Town Meeting to raise and appropriate an additional three hundred five thousand dollars (\$305,000) for the purpose of constructing sidewalks on a portion of Kingston Road in addition to widened shoulders (bike paths) on Kingston Road, with \$185,000 raised by taxation, with the remaining \$120,000 to be funded through approved NHDOT grant funds. This Article will not become effective unless Article 15 is approved.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 17**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate via special warrant article the sum of one hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$130,000) for the purpose of replacing the current Town Hall staircase in the rear interior of the building with a code compliant fire rated staircase to meet applicable building, fire and life safety codes.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-2.

#### **Article 18**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate via special warrant article the sum of sixty eight thousand dollars (\$68,000) for the purpose of designing a replacement water line on Washington Street from Front Street to Brentwood Road. This sum to come from water fees.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 19**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Sick Leave Expendable Trust Fund previously established. This sum to come from general fund surplus.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 20**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Snow and Ice Deficit Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established. This sum to come from general fund surplus.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 21**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for \$168,968 for the purpose of lease/purchasing a dump truck for the Exeter Highway Department to replace a 2004 dump truck, and to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-three thousand seven hundred ninety four dollars (\$33,794), which represents the first of 5 annual payments for that purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 22**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for \$137,718 for the purpose of lease/purchasing a backhoe replacement for the Exeter Highway Department to replace a 2004 backhoe, and to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty seven thousand five hundred forty four dollars (\$27,544), which represents the first of 5 annual payments for that purpose. This lease/purchase will contain an escape (non-appropriation) clause.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### **Article 23**

To see if the Town will name the Board of Selectmen as Cemetery Trustees pursuant to RSA 289:6 for cemeteries not under the care and custody of the Exeter Cemetery Association.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### Article 24

On petition of Paul Royal and other registered voters of the Town of Exeter NH to see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to eliminate section 102.2 of Chapter 1 of the Town Ordinances “Winter Parking Ban” and further eliminate the words “Winter parking ban is December 1 through March 15 each year” in section 101.3 of Chapter 1 of the Town Ordinances. The intent of this article is to eliminate the current winter parking plan and replace it with a requirement for town officials to declare a “Snow Emergency” between certain evening hours in order to ban parking within any public R-O-W when a weather forecast indicates that a storm sufficient to require DPW storm cleanup or storm preparation is likely. We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act well prior to November 1, 2017 in order to address any issues related to the transition and allow time to inform the citizenry of Exeter as to any change to the current ordinance.

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Daniel W. Chartrand, Chairman

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Julie D. Gilman, Vice-Chairwoman

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Nancy Belanger, Clerk

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Anne L. Surman

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Don Clement

We certify that on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017, we caused a true copy of the within warrant to be posted at the Exeter Town Hall on Front Street, the Exeter Public Library at Founder’s Park, Exeter High School at 1 Blue Hawk Drive, Talbot Gymnasium at Tuck Learning Campus, 30 Linden Street, and the Town Clerk’s Office, 10 Front Street.

Given under our hands and seal this \_\_\_\_\_<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

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Daniel W. Chartrand, Chairman

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Julie D. Gilman, Vice-Chairwoman

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Nancy Belanger, Clerk

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Anne L. Surman

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Don Clement